



# TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION

OF GREATER NEW YORK • AFL-CIO • LOCAL 100

**John Samuelsen**  
President

**Earl Phillips**  
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Recording Secretary

**Angel Giboyeaux**  
Administrative VP

**January 9, 2013**

Thomas Prendergast  
President - New York City Transit  
2 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. Prendergast:

The TA's effort to reduce 12-9s by posting signs encouraging riders to stand back from the edge of the platform has not had a measurable effect on subway deaths. The two widely covered pushing incidents and the New Year's Day suicide has focused intense public scrutiny on an issue that has been an all too common occurrence in our system.

One fatal 12-9 per week, two additional, non-fatal 12-9's and the associated deleterious effects on train crews can no longer be accepted as the price of on-time service. In the interest of public safety and the well being of your employees, we believe it is imperative that the MTA take immediate steps to end this carnage.

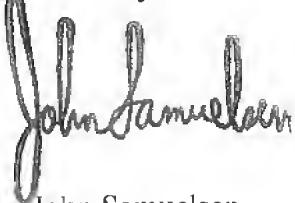
Following are a list of common sense, cost effective proposals that will quickly reduce the number of 12-9's and advance the discussion on how to eradicate these incidents from our system.

- Effective immediately, encourage Train Operators to operate with caution when entering stations.
- Post speed restrictions at the entrance of every station reducing the allowable speed to 10 mph.
- Place a customer-activated safety warning light at the entrance to stations to be used if someone falls onto the tracks.

- Place power cut off switches in all Station Booths.
- Create a customer information campaign to let transit customers know what to do if someone is on the tracks, and how to signal a train operator to come to a stop.
- Announce a competition for design ideas to improve platform safety, similar to the app competition that has provided useful ideas.
- Please let us know as soon as possible when the Authority will move forward on these proposals.

In the interim, TWU Local 100 is advising our operators to enter stations with extreme caution to protect the riders and to protect themselves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Samuelsen".

John Samuelsen

President, TWU Local 100

cc: Earl Phillips  
Angel Giboyeaux  
LaTonya Crisp-Sauray  
Kevin Harrington  
Steve Downs  
Joe Costales

JS/csw  
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